



Greg Schwab

Bill Analysis

Legislative Service Commission

H.B. 361

124th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Seitz, Raga, Schaffer, Willamowski, Metzger, Collier, Jones, Webster, Goodman, Coates, Fessler, Perry, Seaver, Schmidt, Young, Husted, Kearns, Schuring, Lendrum, Flowers, Gilb, Faber, Schneider

BILL SUMMARY

? Includes fitness club dues among the expenses that may be paid from a Medical Savings Account.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Medical Savings Accounts

Continuing law permits a medical savings account to be opened by or on behalf of any natural person to pay the person's eligible medical expenses and the eligible medical expenses of that person's spouse or dependent. That person must also participate in a sickness and accident insurance plan, a health care plan of a health insuring corporation, or an employer-sponsored health benefit plan while the medical savings account is open. (Sec. 3924.62.) Persons maintaining a medical savings account are eligible to receive Ohio income tax benefits (sec. 3924.66).

Eligible medical expenses

(sec. 3924.61)

An "eligible medical expense," an expense that may be paid from a medical savings account, is defined by the Medical Savings Account Law. Some examples of "eligible medical expenses" are those expenses incurred for: services rendered by a licensed health care provider; articles, devices, or drugs prescribed by a licensed health care provider; and premiums for health care insurance. Expenses otherwise paid or reimbursed, such as by an insurance plan, are not "eligible medical expenses." This bill does not eliminate or amend any item in the current list of eligible medical expenses. The bill, however, adds "physical fitness facility dues" to the list of eligible medical expenses.

The bill defines "physical fitness facility dues" as amounts paid by an account holder to establish, maintain, or renew membership of the account holder or the account holder's spouse or dependent in a physical fitness facility such as an athletic club, health spa, or gymnasium entitling the account holder, spouse, or dependent to use the facility for physical exercise. These amounts include membership dues, initiation fees, minimum periodic fees, and other similar dues and fees.

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	09-13-01	p. 829

h0361-i.124/kl